

# The Diamond From the Sky

By ROY L. McCARDELL

Copyright, 1915, by Roy L. McCardell

## SYNOPSIS OF PRECEDING CHAPTERS.

A feud has existed between Colonel Arthur Stanley and his cousin, Judge Lamar Stanley, over an heirloom, the diamond from the sky, found in a fallen meteor by an ancestor. Also, the succession to the Stanley earldom in England may come to an American. When a daughter is born to the colonel and the mother dies, the colonel buys a gypsy boy and substitutes him. Three years later the gypsy mother, having had no part in this bargain, steals the girl, being raised in secret, and leaves her son undetected as the heir. The gypsy has obtained possession of the diamond from the sky, and a document with the Stanley secret. When Esther is grown a beautiful young girl, Hagar, now gypsy queen, returns to Virginia with her. Dr. Lee, the late Colonel Stanley's friend, adopts Esther, but demands that Hagar turn over to him the diamond from the sky. Arthur Stanley, son of Hagar, falls in love with Esther and so does his companion and cousin, Blair Stanley, rightful male heir of Stanley. In stealing the diamond Blair causes the death of the doctor. Outside is Arthur serenading Esther. Blair, escaping, infers that he has left Esther's room. Arthur forces him to fight a duel in which Blair is only stunned. He tries, with the aid of his mother, to place the blame for the murder of Dr. Lee upon Arthur, who now has the diamond. The sheriff attempts to take Arthur, but he eludes his pursuers and joins Hagar, who reveals his identity and apprises him for his wild life. Needing money, he pawns the diamond in Richmond. Blair is in Richmond, and he, too, is forced to visit the pawnshop. The two agree to stand by each other. At a ball, at which a supposed New York belle is the guest of honor, they are stunned to find the diamond on the visitor. She is an adventuress who has borrowed it. While Hagar is telling the "belle's" fortune Luke Lovell, Hagar's gypsy guard, steals the diamond and to avoid detection drops it into a mail box. A sheriff tries to arrest Arthur on the murder charge. He escapes from Richmond on a freight train. The diamond passes into a mail bag, which is lost from a wagon and is picked up by Quabba, an organ grinder. Quabba's monkey steals the diamond and leaves it in a nest in a tree. Arthur is robbed by hoboos, who leave him in tatters. He seeks work at a farm. Hagar takes Esther to live at Stanley hall. An old time tournament is held. Arthur attends in disguise, proves himself the best knight, defeating Blair, but is betrayed by the latter to the sheriff. Quabba, in jest, handcuffs Arthur and escapes. Later he leaves the farm. Tom Blake, a detective hired by Hagar, produces fingerprints proving Blair guilty of the death of Dr. Lee. Blair and his mother quarrel about Vivian. Hagar proposes silence to Mrs. Stanley as the price of Hagar's and Esther's being received in Fairfax society. Blair strikes down Hagar and steals the fingerprints and money from his mother. The diamond is found by a negro boy.

Summoning the servants, Esther had Hagar carried to her chamber. The



blow Blair Stanley had dealt Hagar with the heavy poker had made no cut or external wound. She was soon in fevered sleep, and Esther was forced to leave her bedside at urgent summons from below.

There she found Luke Lovell, headman for Hagar here as well as at the gypsy camp, hidden in the mountains twenty miles away.

Suspecting that Hagar was ill both of mind and body, Lovell had already usurped authority. Even now he was ordering the wandering hunchback organ grinder from the place.

But if Quabba was frail he was courageous. He was insisting he would not leave the place until he had said farewell to the strange, grand lady who had spoken Romany to him and also farewell to her fair faced daughter, who had also bidden him to stay and be refreshed.

There was something so loyal and true in the hunchback's respectful gaze that, stranger as he was, it made Esther take his hand, after sternly dismissing the scowling Lovell, and beset the humble hunchback to stay.

"Do not leave us," she whispered. "Something tells me you will be a friend, and we have no friends now save perhaps our gypsy people." And

even as she spoke Esther recalled the scene in the grand stand at the tournament and how this hunchback wanderer had warned Arthur that he had been betrayed.

At this juncture a carriage drove up to Stanley hall. From this a strange figure alighted, the figure of a tall, lean, serious, side whiskered Englishman wearing a plaid suit with a heavy mourning band on the arm and a glistening white tropic helmet. This strange individual had a rifle in the carriage.

At the sight of Quabba's chattering monkey the lean Englishman grew wildly excited. "Some of their native wild beasts!" he exclaimed and rushed back to the carriage for his rifle.

It took some effort on the part of both Esther and Quabba to reassure



Marmaduke Smythe, Lawyer, Gets His Gun.

the excited visitor that Clarence, the monkey, was not at all a wild beast of the Virginia jungle, but simply an itinerant organ grinder's friend, companion and collector of external revenue.

Then the stranger made known his name and errand.

"I am Marmaduke Smythe, barrister, of London, England, solicitor and agent of the estate of the earls of Stanley of Stanley castle, Warwickshire," he said. "Lord Stanley died there a month ago from the infirmities of old age, leaving no heir in England, the succession falling to the eldest son of the elder branch of Stanleys of this place, Stanley hall.

"I remember it well, for I was here to verify the American heir nearly twenty years ago. And a beastly experience I had, my dear young lady. I was ambushed by croaking savages and fell off a horse and was thrown—not off the horse, but figuratively thrown into the midst of a terrific and bloodthirsty feud between Colonel Stanley and Judge Stanley, both rip snorting, bally fire eaters, as you Yankees way down east in Virginia say. "So my errand, young lady, in these wild parts of the American border is to notify young Arthur Stanley, both Colonel Stanley and the judge being dead, that he is the Earl of Stanley, and the title and estates await him in Warwickshire."

And then it was Esther's painful task to tell the strange caller of the accusations against the young man he sought, of his wild flight and disappearance.

"My word!" exclaimed the embarrassed London lawyer. "What a dreadful way you wild Yankees have of tomahawking each other, don't you know! If the American earl is a criminal in hiding I must notify the next of kin, the late Judge's son, whom I distinctly remember as a vicious little beggar who bit me severely.

"In case his lordship, as I must call him, the fugitive, is captured by your white cap chaps he will undoubtedly be lynched, as is your invariable custom on the American frontiers here, I believe. Hence the son of the late judge will be the Earl of Stanley.

"That is, provided, of course," the London lawyer added, "that this Hon. Blair Stanley, as he would be called with us, has not outgrown his vicious propensities as a child. For I assume if he bites your prominent border ruffians he will be tomahawked or lynched or put an end to in some unpleasant manner. So you must excuse my talking leave, as I must notify the next of kin."

And he raised his tropic helmet politely and walked in a wide circle around the chattering monkey, Clarence, as though he rather doubted the alleged harmlessness of the animal he deemed a denizen of the local jungle.

At the gloomy threshold of Mrs. Lamar Stanley's house the London lawyer received further confirmation of his personal belief that Blair Stanley, whose vicious propensities he remembered, would never outgrow the sanguinary propensities of his childhood.

In the bitter mood that now obsessed her Blair's mother informed the startled lawyer that her son, now next in line for the proud Stanley earldom, had died, no one knew whither, and she hoped to never see his face again.

All she would say in reply to the barrister's nervous pleadings—for he dreaded a long search for the heirs of Stanley in barbarous America—was that Blair might be found at the home of Mrs. Burton Randolph, his cousin, in Richmond. And for that place the lawyer took the first train from Fairfax.

## CHAPTER XVI.

An Idol Adorned and Despoiled.

**B**UOYED by the hope that renewed association with her gypsy tribe might tend to restore Hagar to reason, Esther de-

parted that night with Hagar from Stanley hall.

She was accompanied by Quabba, now her faithful attendant, and the sullenly insistent Luke Lovell. It was a sad return of their stricken queen to the grieving Romany people.

Hagar recognized the gypsies as gypsies, but she called on the names of those long departed, including the name of her dead husband, Matt Harding, whom she evidently deemed was alive and threatening her. For when she spoke his name it was in grim revolt and with bitter maledictions.

That night Quabba slept with his monkey beside him at the threshold of Hagar's van. Inside Esther had sunk in exhausted slumber on her cot beside the fever dream afflicted Hagar. Quabba's light slumber was broken by the crunching of a pebble beneath a heavy foot. Quabba roused and drew his knife, and the menacing figure of Luke Lovell slunk back from the accusative moonlight into the shadows and was seen no more.

That night at this same hour Arthur Stanley, a fugitive and a wanderer, a stranger in a strange land, by his smoldering campfire in a far western desert, dreamed a wild dream that roused him with a shriek. He saw the fear struck face of Esther and near her the sinister Luke Lovell, with his great gnarled hands stretched as though to clutch and crush her.

One who is in society in Richmond may forget unpleasant things in a ceaseless round of new frivolities.

Mrs. Burton Randolph returned from her stay in Fairfax to find her friends in an attitude of delighted commiseration toward her. She confided to her dearest friends that her life seemed fated to be one of turmoil and tragedy. But instead of finding herself pitied in society in Richmond Mrs. Randolph found herself envied as a social heroine in these "delightfully dreadful affairs."

So as the beautiful wistaria was em-purpling her house and grounds Mrs. Burton Randolph announced a wistaria fete, and all Richmond society was nervously expectant of more delightfully dreadful occurrences.

But, although the wistaria fete was a wondrously brilliant affair, according to the society columns of the Richmond papers, no untoward event occurred to mar the pleasure of the day, somewhat to the disappointment of society.

Blair Stanley, with plenty of money, but keeping sedulously away from Mr. Abe Bloom's temple of chance, turned up in Richmond in pursuit of Vivian Marston, with whom he was still infatuated. He knew the risk he took, for it was evident some one in Richmond had secured from Abe Bloom the check that, besides being worthless, had the fatal print of his thumb upon it. For the photograph of this check and thumb print, together with photographs of his thumb prints taken from Dr. Lee's study, had been in the possession of Hagar Harding when he had struck her down.

But such was his fierce passion for the luxurious and beautiful Vivian Marston that Blair walked in the shadow of death for her sake.

He intimated as much to her when he had led her aside beneath the bow-



"I have gone to the foot of the gallowes for you, Vivian!"

er of the purple blossoms at his cousin's wistaria fete. "I have gone to the foot of the gallowes for you, Vivian!" he whispered to her.

For he realized that this beautiful, languorous woman was one to whom an unscrupulous and desperate deed would appeal. He felt that she, too, had a past and that in wickedness they were well matched, and for that the desperate Blair loved her all the more.

For herself, Vivian Marston had lingered in Richmond, leading an existence that was puritanical and galling to her in the rapid restraints, as she deemed them, of conventional southern social restrictions. Her one strong, eager, compelling desire, a desire that held her in provincial Richmond, was her desire for a star—her desire for the diamond from the sky.

Once in all its blazing magnificence it had shone upon her breast. Vivian

Marston longed to again hold and possess the diamond. Her thoughts were upon it by day, and at night her dreams were bright like gold and red like blood.

She had heard its story and knew that, after Arthur, Blair was next in claim for its possession.

(Continued next week)

## COMING BACK

ALLIANCE, NEBRASKA  
UNITED DOCTORS SPECIALIST  
Will Again Be at the  
DRAKE HOTEL,  
Monday, September 13, 1915.  
ONE DAY ONLY  
Hours, 10 A. M. to 8 P. M.

Remarkable Success of These Talented Physicians in the Treatment of Chronic Diseases.

Offer their Services Free of Charge

The United Doctors, licensed by the state of Nebraska for the treatment of deformities and all nervous and chronic diseases of men, women and children, offer to all who call on this trip, consultation, examination, advice free, making no charge whatever, except the actual cost of treatment. All that is asked in return for these valuable services is that every person treated will state the result obtained to their friends and thus prove to the sick and afflicted in every city and locality, that at last treatments have been discovered that are reasonably sure and certain in their effect.

These doctors are among America's leading stomach and nerve specialists and are experts in the treatment of chronic diseases and so great and wonderful have been their results that in many cases it is hard to find the dividing line between skill and miracle.

Diseases of the stomach, intestines, liver, blood, skin, nerves, heart, spleen, kidneys, or bladder, rheumatism, sciatica, diabetes, bed-wetting, tape worm, leg ulcers, weak lungs and those afflicted with long-standing, deep seated, chronic diseases, that have baffled the skill of the family physicians, should not fail to call. Deafness often has been cured in sixty days.

According to their system no more operations for appendicitis, gall stones, tumors, goner, piles, etc., as these diseases are treated without operation or hypodermic injection.

They were among the first in America to earn the name of "Bloodless Surgeons," by doing away with the knife and blood and with all pain in the successful treatment of these dangerous diseases.

If you have kidney or bladder troubles bring a two ounce bottle of your urine for chemical analysis and microscopic examination.

No matter what your ailment may be, no matter what experience you may have had with other physicians, it will be to your advantage to see them at once. Have it forever settled in your mind. If your case is incurable they will give you such advice as may relieve and stay the disease. Do not put off this duty you owe yourself or friends or relatives who are suffering because of your sickness, as a visit at this time may help you.

Worn-out and run-down men or women, no matter what your ailment, consult them. It costs you nothing.

Remember, this last free offer is for this visit only.

Married ladies come with their husbands and minors with their parents.—Advertisement.

## HOW "TIZ" HELPS SORE, TIRED FEET

Good-bye sore feet, burning feet, swollen feet, sweaty feet, smelly feet, tired feet.

Good-bye corns, callouses, bunions and raw spots. No more shoe tightness, no more limping with pain or drawing up your face in agony. "TIZ" is magical, a c a right off. "TIZ" draws out all the poisonous exudations which puff up the feet. Use "TIZ" and forget your foot misery. Ah! how comfortable your feet feel. Get a 25 cent box of "TIZ" now at any druggist or department store. Don't suffer. Have good feet, glad feet, feet that never swell, never hurt, never get tired. A year's foot comfort guaranteed or money refunded.

**RUBBER STAMPS**  
We manufacture every kind of Rubber Stamp in 100 and carry a complete stock of accessories, making a specialty of prompt, reliable service. Let us show you that all-Over a Stamp price the lowest and best. Our stamps are made in the U.S.A.  
**THE PROMPT PRINTERY**  
Phone 7-10000, St. Paul, Minn.

## THE "PRUDENT MAN" IS NEVER OUT OF A JOB AND WITHOUT MONEY IN THE BANK



Regrets won't bring back the money you have extravagantly spent. One sure friend to the man in trouble is MONEY in the bank.

But the man who banks his money is the man who gains the confidence of his employer and holds his job. Money in the bank also means CREDIT and CONFIDENCE. No man can afford not to have the confidence of his fellow men.

Make OUR bank YOUR bank.

## First State Bank

ALLIANCE, NEBRASKA

## Are You Going to Build?

A House? A Barn? A Granary? A Machinery Shed? A Chicken House? Any Kind of a Building?

If you are, we extend you an urgent invitation to call and see us. We'll not only be glad to furnish you with the building material, but we'll help you all we can in drawing up your plans. Whether your bill be large or small, we take a pride in turning out lumber that will make the building a permanent one, and one that you'll be satisfied with after it is finished.

QUALITY AND SERVICE FIRST



Phone 73

Geo. A. Heilman, Mgr.

## FARE \$3.00 DAILY BETWEEN CLEVELAND & BUFFALO

**C&B LINE**

The Great Ship "SEANDBEE"

The largest and most costly steamer on any inland water of the world. Sleeping accommodations for 1000 passengers.

"CITY OF ERIE" — 3 Magnificent Steamers — "CITY OF BUFFALO"

CLEVELAND—Daily, May 1st to Dec. 1st—BUFFALO

Leave Cleveland 8:00 P. M. Leave Buffalo 8:00 P. M.  
Arrive Buffalo 8:00 A. M. Arrive Cleveland 8:00 A. M.  
(Central Standard Time)

Connections at Buffalo for Niagara Falls and all Eastern and Canadian points. Railroad tickets reading between Cleveland and Buffalo are good for transportation on our steamers. Ask for our 12-page pictorial and descriptive booklet free.

Beautifully colored sectional puzzle chart, showing both exterior and interior of The Great Ship "SEANDBEE", sent on receipt of five cents to cover postage and mailing. Also ask for our 12-page pictorial and descriptive booklet free.

THE CLEVELAND & BUFFALO TRANSIT CO., Cleveland, Ohio

**DYE & OWENS Transfer Line**

Household goods moved promptly and transfer work solicited.

Dray Phone 54 Residence phone 636 and Blue 574

## Nebraska Military Academy

(Incorporated)

YOUR BOY must be educated and developed. If he is not doing well in school, is discouraged, wants to do more and better work, the NEBRASKA MILITARY ACADEMY is a SCHOOL close at home where you can send him and be sure that he gets what you want him to have. This SCHOOL understands BOYS and deals with them individually. Prepares for college and business. For information talk to our patrons, visit the school, phone or write for catalog.

Address COL. B. D. HAYWARD, President  
LINCOLN, NEBRASKA